

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A polymer electrolyte membrane, comprising:

a microporous polymer membrane having pores penetrating through opposite sides thereof, the microporous polymer membrane being a microporous polyimide polymer membrane with the polyimide constituting the microporous polyimide membrane comprising at least 1 mol% of 3,3'-dihydroxy-4,4'-diaminobiphenyl based on a total diamine component, the microporous polymer membrane containing a mixture of a polymer and a molten salt at a weight ratio of 1/99 to 99/1 and/or a molten salt,

wherein the microporous polymer membrane comprises a heat-resistant aromatic polymer having no glass transition temperature below 100°C,

the microporous polymer membrane has a percentage of void of 10 to 90% by volume, and

the molten salt has a melting point of 100°C or lower.

2. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, wherein the microporous polymer membrane contains the molten salt.

3. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, wherein the microporous polymer membrane holds the mixture of the polymer and the molten salt in the pores thereof.

4. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, wherein the microporous polymer membrane holds the mixture of the polymer and the molten salt in the pores thereof and on both sides thereof.

5. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, wherein the microporous polymer membrane contains the molten salt in the pores thereof and has a layer comprising the mixture of the polymer and the molten salt provided on both sides thereof.

6. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, wherein the microporous polymer membrane has an average pore size of 0.01 to 50 μm .

7-11. (canceled)

12. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, wherein the polymer of the mixture is a cation exchange group-containing polymer.

13. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 12, wherein the cation exchange group is a sulfonic group, a carboxyl group or a phosphonic group, and the cation exchange group-containing polymer has an ion exchange capacity of 0.3 to 7 meq/g.

14. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, wherein the molten salt has an ammonium ion as a cation component.

15. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, which has a content of the mixture of the polymer and the molten salt of 1 to 99% by weight.

16. (original) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, which has a content of the molten salt of 1 to 90% by volume.

17-22. (canceled)

23. (previously presented) The polymer electrolyte membrane according to claim 1, wherein the molten salt has a melting point of 80°C or lower.

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24-25. (canceled)